

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 RABAT 04042 241016Z

11

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 OMB-01 DRC-01 /144 W

----- 049283

R 240750Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2972

INFO USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE RABAT 4042

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR PBOR MO SS

SUBJ: SPANISH SAHARA: REACTIONS TO REFERENDUM ANNOUNCEMENT

1. IN WAKE OF KING'S SPEECH AND SPANISH REFERENDUM ACCOUNCEMENT, MEDIA HAVE RENEWED VIGOROUS CAMPAIGN ON SAHARA. EMPHASIS HAS BEEN ON SPANISH WISH TO SET UP PUPPET STATE IN SAHARA AND ON MAURITANIA'S STATEMENT THAT IT WILL NEVER RELINQUISH ITS RIGHTS IN REGION. WITH RESPECT TO MAURITANIA, SEMI-OFFICIAL PRESS HAS JOINED ISTIQLAL IN QUESTIONING MAURITANIAN RIGHT TO EXIST. "WE ASK OURSELVES," SAID LE MATIN, "HOW (MAURITANIA) WHICH HAS NEVER EXISTED, CAN HARBOR PRETENSIONS (VIS A VIS SAHARA)." TONE OF SEMI-OFFICIAL PRESS HAS BEEN GENERALLY ANGRY BUT LE MATIN-MAROC SOIR PUBLISHER MOULAY AHMED ALAOUI, IN LATEST OF SPATE OF SAHARA EDITORIALS, ATTEMPTED TO PUT BEST FACE POSSIBLE ON SITUATION BY ASSERTING THAT MOROCCO HAD FORCED SPAIN TO NEGOTIATE.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 RABAT 04042 241016Z

2. PRESS HAS ALSO CARRIED DECLARATIONS OF SUPPORT TO KING ON

SAHARA BY NATIONAL RESISTANTS COUNCIL AND BY MEMBERS OF ARMED FORCES STATIONED IN SOUTH. LATTER MESSAGE SIGNED BY KING'S SECURITY CHIEF, COLONEL DLIMI, WHO HAS ASSUMED COMMAND OF THIRD DIVISION, A UNIT WHICH HE REPORTEDLY VISITS EVERY TWO WEEKS OR SO.

3. SPANISH EMBASSY OFFICER ARGUES THAT SITUATION IS NOW CLEARER, AND PROBABLY BETTER FROM SPAIN'S POINT OF VIEW, THAN BEFORE ACCOUNCEMENT. ALTHOUGH GOM AND GOS POSITIONS ARE AT PRESENT "IRRECONCILABLE," HE BELIEVES THAT MEANINGFUL DIALOGUE HAS BEEN OPENED. AMONG FIRST ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED, HE SAID, SHOULD BE QUESTION OF ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE OF SAHARAN REFUGEES LIVING IN MOROCCO. AT SAME TIME, OF COURSE, SPAIN WOULD BE EQUALLY WILLING TO DISCUSS PROBLEM WITH OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES. PRIMARY EFFECT OF MOROCCO'S CAMPAIGN HAD BEEN TO UNITE ELEMENTS OF SPANISH GOVERNMENT, WHICH FORMERLY HAD DIFFERED AS TO WHEN AND HOW TO LEAVE SAHARA, THAT IT WAS BEST TO GO QUICKLY AND TO TURN PROBLEM OVER TO UN.
COON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, INDEPENDENCE, REFERENDUMS, TERRITORIAL CLAIMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974RABAT04042
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740234-0731
From: RABAT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740820/aaaaaqqw.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 APR 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <04 MAR 2003 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SPANISH SAHARA: REACTIONS TO REFERENDUM ANNOUNCEMENT
TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, MO, SS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005